

dedication to the men and women in uniform has vastly improved their quality of life and mission readiness. As he retires from the United States Army, he will leave behind a tremendous legacy.

Mr. President, General Hughes is a great credit to the Army and the Nation. I salute him for his many years of selfless service to our country, and offer my gratitude to him, his wife Karlene and their sons, Barry and Chad, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Army. I know I speak for the people of my state when I say that I am proud of General Hughes; I know that I speak for all Americans when I say that he will be missed.●

#### A TRIBUTE TO BOB FERRELL

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a great patriot from my wonderful State of West Virginia, Mr. Robert "Bob" Ferrell. Bob retired from the U.S. Air Force with more than 21 years of active duty service. He bravely served his country during the Vietnam conflict on the C-130 Spectre Gunship as a gunner and instructor gunner. Over the course of many years of service, the Air Force honored Bob with numerous prestigious awards, including the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross.

After completing his tour in Vietnam, Bob returned to his lifelong home of Logan County, and began the hard work of a coal miner to support his family. Bob was an exemplary citizen and participated in many community activities. He was a lifetime member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. After retiring from the mines in the mid 1980's, Bob traveled all over our State seeking the opportunity to speak to our school children about the importance of service to our country and to our state.

A devoted husband and father, Bob raised four wonderful and productive children, two boys and two girls. The example he set for his sons resulted in both of them following in his footsteps and enlisting in the armed forces. The eldest, Mike, is serving in the 101st Airborne division of Fort Campbell, KY, and Steve is a full-time member of the West Virginia Army National Guard. His daughters also are respected members of their communities. The oldest, LaRue, is a chiropractor, and her younger sister, Anitra, is a loving mother and housewife.

Bob passed away in May of this year, and was buried, so appropriately, on the day which commemorates the lives of all those who sacrificed so much for our nation, Memorial Day. Mr. President, as you know, I am the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and I take great pride in recognizing this wonderful and patriotic man from my state of West Virginia. Bob was one of more than 200,000 veterans from my home State,

and represents the millions of Americans who served our country with pride and distinction. One of the best ways we can honor Bob's memory is to work diligently to ensure that the promises made by our government to all veterans are kept.

I would like to close by saying—thank you, Bob. Your outstanding attitude and unselfish lifestyle are an inspiration to the people of our State. You attained the goal all men strive for, in that, you left the world a better place for all of us.●

#### COLCHESTER LIONS CLUB

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Colchester Lions Club of Colchester, CT. On October 30, they will be celebrating their 50th anniversary of service to the Colchester community.

The Colchester Lions Club was established on August 2, 1949, and through the support of area residents, they have reached out to assist many members of the community. The Lions Club has lent its support to such worthwhile local causes as the D.A.R.E. Program for schools, academic scholarships for local students, and area food banks, and senior centers. They also have reached far beyond the Town of Colchester by raising funds for organizations such as the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation and Lions Clubs International.

As the Colchester Lions Club has grown over the years, their numerous good works have touched many lives and demonstrated the true value of volunteerism. The people of Connecticut thank the Colchester Lions Club and all its members for their service, dedication, and contribution to our State.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE NORTH CATHOLIC GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the North Catholic Girls Basketball team for their 25 years of outstanding accomplishments.

Over the past 25 years, the team has earned a record of 671 wins and 100 losses. Coach Don Barth, the team's coach during their first 23 years, took the team to the WPIAL championship game 21 times. Last year, the team again went to the championship game under their current coach, Molly Larkin Rothman.

Among the team's other accomplishments, they have won the state championships seven times, the conference championship 25 times, and they hold the record for the longest winning streak with 56 wins between 1987 and 1989.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the North Catholic Girls Basketball team on their outstanding accomplishments over the past 25 years. They have provided an excellent example for youth in

Pennsylvania and throughout the country.●

#### DEATH OF CLIF LEAR

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, several weeks ago Cibola County in New Mexico lost one of its leading citizens when Clif Lear of Grants died of cancer.

A businessman, he took public service very seriously and served over the years as a city councilman and as the city manager. His contributions to economic development in an area hit hard when the mines closed made a huge difference to the people of Cibola County, as he worked tirelessly to attract new initiatives and new projects.

His wife and three daughters have the sympathy and appreciation of us all who are grateful for Clif's life and the effort he made to make his corner of New Mexico better.●

#### SENATE WILDERNESS AND PUBLIC LANDS CAUCUS

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I proudly join my colleagues as a founding member of this newly created Senate Wilderness and Public Lands Caucus. I congratulate my friend, Senator FEINGOLD, for his bold spirit and commitment to the active protection of our public lands. I accepted Senator FEINGOLD's invitation to participate in this new Caucus because we share a responsibility to protect the natural resources that sustain our world and grace the quality of our lives.

On this day, we commemorate the success of the 1964 Wilderness Act with a renewed commitment to responsible preservation. More than 35 years since the Act's passage, Americans can more readily cherish and enjoy pristine lands in their natural state, unencumbered by growth and development. An important goal of this new Caucus is the desire to improve our process for making important land management decisions impacting our public lands.

Developing consensus policy for public lands protection is of particular necessity and importance for western states. In Arizona, more than 80 percent of lands are held in public ownership, with 4.5 million acres designated as wilderness. Arizonans enjoy wilderness in such places as the Superstition Mountains, Cabeza Prieta, Baboquivari Peak and the Red Rock Secret Mountain.

Many more difficult land management decisions will require our thoughtful consideration. For example, the state of Arizona has grappled for more than ten years over the question of wilderness suitability for the state's largest national park, the Grand Canyon National Park. Arizonans are still engaged in deliberations of this important decision, as well as determining appropriate land management decisions for other areas in our state.

Each of us is well aware that public land management is divisive and, if not